



**Testimony of Goodwin College in Support of SB 352: AN ACT EXTENDING THE MORATORIUM ON  
APPROVAL OF PROGRAMS OF INDEPENDENT INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION.**

**Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee Public Hearing March 8, 2018**

Goodwin College, a private non-profit (IRS Registered 501-C3) institution of higher education located in East Hartford, Connecticut with 3,410 students (97% CT Residents) coming from 136 of Connecticut municipalities, supports the termination of the Office of Higher Education's (OHE) oversight of Connecticut's Independent Colleges' processes of new academic program development and program modification.

Since the July 1, 2016 exemption of CGS Sec. 10a-24 that withdrew OHE's oversight of program development and program modifications, Goodwin College continued to use its own, rigorous program development, evaluation and improvement. For example, Goodwin College's new program development applications require input and approval from faculty, staff and community stakeholders. Applications move through the college's governance process, specifically the New Program and Evaluation Committee, Corporate Programmatic Advisory Boards, Faculty Senate, Academic Affairs Committee, the President's Cabinet, the Board of Trustees (BOT) Academic Subcommittee as well as the full BOT. Our comprehensive proposals that include environmental scans, financial analysis and implementation plans, are effective. We review our process annually, and we make incremental improvements as part of our internal quality improvement process.

During the two-year exemption period, Goodwin College considered more programs than the two previous years and approved less programs than during the three previous years (see Table 1). New programs were approved after rigorous examination; chosen because of their ability to meet the needs of employers and would advance the college's mission.

In addition to our internal quality controls, academic programs are monitored by programmatic accreditation (i.e., 12 of our programs are professionally accredited), and the college maintains regional accreditation as well.

Without the passage of SB 352, the Program Approval moratorium would expire, requiring Goodwin College to expend additional resources and inhibit our ability to respond to industry needs in a timely manner. The additional layer of oversight would create redundant work by repeating documentation that is already covered by the extensive new program business plans. Goodwin College still views OHE as a collegial resource, regardless of the formal approval process.

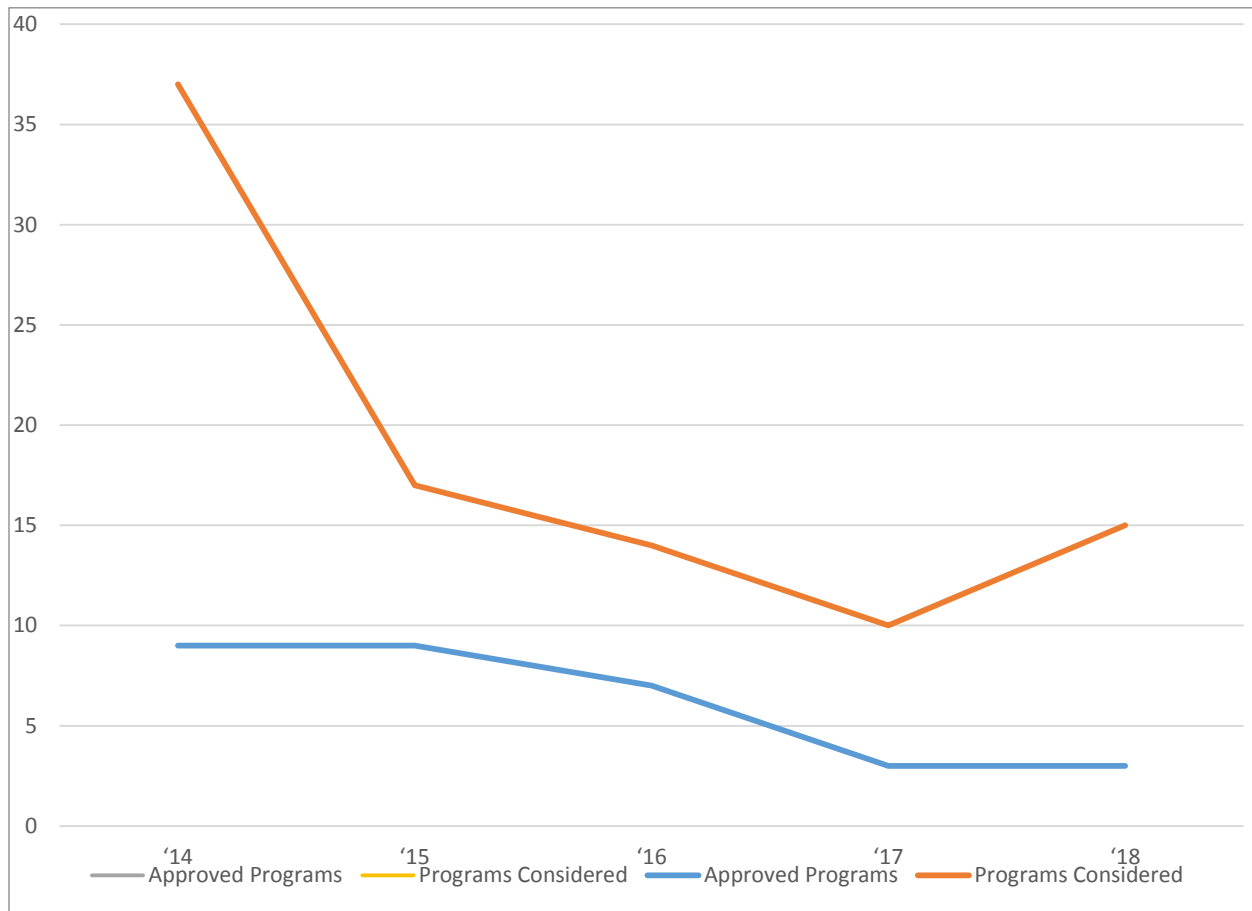
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Figure and Table 1. Goodwin College New Program Development



	Fiscal Years				
	'14	'15	'16	'17	'18
Approved Programs	9	9	7	3	3
Programs Considered	37	17	14	10	15
Programs Did not go through	25	8	7	7	12
Percent of Programs Licensed	24%	53%	50%	30%	20%